

DSP Explorer Series



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EXPLORING an investment framework for Gold

April 2020

Factors in the investment framework



Interplay of these factors drives long term trend and shorter term cycles and counter-cycles

Fundamental Relationship between Real rates & Gold



Gold outperforms when Real rates are negative

Graphical representation - Real rates v/s Gold



Source: Bloomberg; Data as on April 30, 2020. The figures shown relate to past performance. **Past performance may not sustain in future and should not be used as a basis for comparison with other investments.** Index performance is shown for illustrative purposes only. Index performance returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. Indices are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index.

Gold gives a positive carry in a negative real rate environment

Scenarios for negative and positive real rates



DURING INFLATIONARY SCENARIOS Inflation (accelerating) > Bond yields => Negative Real rates

IN A NEGATIVE RATES ENVIRONMENT Mildly positive Inflation expectations v/s Zero / Neg. Bond yields => Real rates trend downwards WHEN DO WE GET POSITIVE REAL RATES?

DURING DEFLATIONARY SCENARIOS Inflation fall > Fall in Bond yields => Positive Real rates

IN A NEGATIVE RATES ENVIRONMENT Sharply falling Inflation expectations v/s Zero / Neg. Bond yields => Real rates trend upwards

Trends in inflation expectations influence Real rates

Implications of Covid-19 induced shutdowns on Real rates



-0.8

Source: Bloomberg; Data as on April 30, 2020. The figures shown relate to past performance. **Past performance may not sustain in future and should not be used as a basis for comparison with other investments.** Index performance is shown for illustrative purposes only. Index performance returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. Indices are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index.

Collapsing inflation expectations => Real rates trend sharply higher

Technical relationship – Demand side for Gold

RELATIVELY STABLE PHYSICAL DEMAND FOR NDUSTRIAL END USE



700

600

500



LARGER FLUCTUATIONS IN DEMAND FOR INVESTMENT PURPOSES Investment demand ex. ETFs 250 Central Banks



Investment demand: the swing factor for the gold price



POSTIONING OF MKT. PARTICIPANTS IN GOLD FUTURES

PHYSICAL BACKED ETF HOLDINGS



Activity in Gold Futures shows sharp fluctuations

Source for both charts: Datastream and Bloomberg, as of 3 December 2019.

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Physical supply

MINE PRODUCTION



CAPITAL SPENDING OF GOLD COMPANIES



Production increase without capital spending => future supply constraints

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Sources: Left: World Gold Council, 31 January 2019. Right: Company reports, RBC Capital Markets estimates, 25 September 2019. There is no guarantee that any forecasts made will come to pass.

Implications of Covid-19 induced shutdowns on demand / supply

DEMAND SIDE

Buyers in the Futures may insist on physical delivery to ensure against potential defaults

Central bank demand maybe affected due to lower reserve surplus caused by

- fall in exports
- potential debt servicing requirements

POTENTIAL DISCONNECT BETWEEN FUTURES & PHYSICAL MARKET

SUPPLY SIDE

Lockdown may impact availability of workforce for various activities

- Mining of the ore
- Refining and production
- Transportation of cargo
- Loading and unloading of cargo

POTENTIAL FOR SUPPLY SHORTAGES

Potential supply shortages

=> Potential dislocation between Futures & Physical markets

Central bank Balance Sheet expansion

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Size of current & future balance sheet expansions

=> fear of devaluation in fiat currency

Relationship between FED balance sheet expansion & Dollar Index



Source: Bloomberg; Data as on April 30, 2020. The figures shown relate to past performance. Past performance may not sustain in future and should not be used as a basis for comparison with other investments. Index performance is shown for illustrative purposes only. Index performance returns do not reflect any management fees, transaction costs or expenses. Indices are unmanaged and one cannot invest directly in an index.

FED Balance sheet expansion post GFC accompanied by appreciating USD => Fear of devaluation not proven by actual data



Long term trend in the US Dollar Index



Data as on 30TH April 2020, Source: Bloomberg. The figure mentioned for performance of the index should not construe as returns/performance of the Scheme. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

US Dollar Index shows potential for further appreciation



Imbalance in the current US Dollar based financial system



DM V/S EM SHARE IN GLOBAL GDP

SHARE OF US\$ IN GLOBAL FINANCIAL SYSTEM

Source: BlackRock, Bloomberg, and Bank of England, as of 31 March 2020.

Global demand for USD negating impact of FED balance sheet expansion



Implications of Covid-19 on the alternative currency debate

NEAR TO MID TERM (1 – 3 years)

Covid-19 has caused an economic slowdown which may become a **severe recession or depression** depending on the length of the global lockdowns

Given existing high levels of debt, this creates a higher possibility of **Debt deflation** as most of the money used to service debt

HIGH DEMAND FOR US DOLLARS TO MEET CASH REQUIREMENTS & DEBT REPAYMENTS

 \Rightarrow USD LIKELY TO BE FAVORED OVER GOLD

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LONG TERM (> 3 years)

Strengthening dollar may create stress for other currencies starting from weakest EM currencies and proceeding to strongest DM currencies over time

Sovereigns already buying corporate debt and transferring risk onto themselves and creating **potential for currency collapses**

STRONG US DOLLAR POTENTIALLY CREATES CONSENSUS FOR CHANGE OF RESERVE

=> GOLD LIKELY TO BE FAVORED OVER USD

USD may strengthen near term & reduce fear of reserve currency devaluation Creates conditions for future change of USD reserve system

Summarizing the conclusions of the investment framework



Fundamental imbalances in USD system => long term bull case for Gold Covid-19 effects => may cause near to mid term corrections

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DSP World Gold Fund

PRODUCT STRUCTURE

Indian Investors

DSP World Gold Fund

BlackRock Global Funds - World Gold Fund (BGF-WGF)

WHERE DOES THE UNDERLYING FUND INVEST?

> 70% of its assets in the equity securities of companies whose predominant economic activity is gold-mining

1600

1400

1200

1000

800

600

400

200

KEY DRIVERS

Gold prices are the key drivers of Gold mining companies as they determine the margins



Margins for Gold mining companies = Gold price – All-in sustaining costs



Source: BlackRock; Data as on November 30, 2019.



Source: BlackRock; Data as on November 30, 2019.

Source: Bloomberg. US Global Investors; Data as on November 30, 2019.



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DSP World Gold Fund

UNDERLYING FUND PORTFOLIO DETAILS





PERFORMANCE DATA

YEAR	DSP World Gold Fund	FTSE Gold Mine	Alpha
2007	31.81%	12.06%	
2008	-19.4%	-0.3%	-19.1%
2009	41.5%	24.7%	16.73%
2010	29.0%	24.8%	4.2%
2011	-2.6%	0.9%	-3.5%
2012	-5.8%	-11.3%	5.45%
2013	-41.5%	-46.1%	4.58%
2014	-3.0%	-12.3%	9.24%
2015	-18.5%	-16.7%	-1.8%
2016	52.7%	64.9%	-12.3%
2017	-4.0%	3.5%	-7.5%
2018	-10.7%	-1.8%	-8.8%
2019	35.1%	45.8%	-10.7%
YTD 2020	-13.6%	-11.3%	-2.3%
No of times positive returns by the Fund			36%
No of times O/P benchmark			43%

Period	DSP World Gold Fund	FTSE Gold Mine
1 year	8.68%	21.84%
3 Years	0.06%	8.18%
5 Years	5.63%	12.70%
Since Inception *	1.85%	2.31%

Source: MFIE, BlackRock. *Inception Date: September 14, 2007 ; Portfolio data as on 28 February 2020; Performance data as on 31 Mar 2020; Scheme benchmark = FTSE Gold Mine ; . For performance in SEBI Prescribed format of DSP World Gold Fund click here, . Past performance may or may not sustain in future and should not be used as a basis for comparison with other investments. The figure mentioned for performance of the index should not construe as returns/performance of the Scheme. It is not possible to invest directly in an index.

Sector wise allocation (%)

Sector	Fund	Benchmark	Net
Gold	86.3%	98.3%	-11.9%
Silver	8.3%	1.7%	6.6%
Cash	2.2%	0.0%	2.2%
Platinum Group Metals	1.4%	0.0%	1.4%
Diversified	1.0%	0.0%	1.0%
Copper	0.8%	0.0%	0.8%

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Asset Allocation

- 1. Units of BGF WGF# or other similar overseas mutual fund scheme(s): 95% to 100%
- 2. Money market securities and/ or units of money market/liquid schemes of DSP Mutual Fund: 0% to 5%

#in the shares of BGF – WGF, an Undertaking for Collective Investment in Transferable Securities (UCITS) III fund.

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Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully

Scheme	Product Suitability	Riskometer		
DSP World Gold Fund (An open ended fund of fund scheme investing in BlackRock Global Funds – World Gold Fund (BGF – WGF)	 This Scheme is suitable for investors who are seeking* : Long-term capital growth Investment in units of overseas funds which invest primarily in equity and equity related securities of gold mining Companies 	Investors understand that their principal will be at high risk		
*Investors should consult their financial advisors if in doubt about whether the Scheme is suitable for them.				

